

*Louisiana Department of Agriculture*  
MARKET NEWS SERVICE  
STATE MARKET COMMISSION

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**Louisiana Forest Products**

**Quarterly Market Report**

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TIMBER CUTTINGS, 1975 TOTAL AND JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1976

Sawlogs cut in Louisiana for the year 1975 totaled 972,787,000 board feet. This was the smallest volume harvested since 1965. Compared with recent years, cuttings were down 17.4 percent from 1974 and 13.4 percent below the 1969-73 average. For the first two months of 1976 sawlog harvest is running 47.7 percent above a year ago and 10.3 percent above the previous five-year average.

The pulpwood cut of 2,952,000 cords in 1975 was the smallest since 1968. This volume represented a 20.2 decline from the previous year and 6.5 percent below the 1969-73 average. So far this year cuttings are up - 17.2 percent over a year ago and 9.4 percent more than the 5-year average.

MARKET SUMMARY, FIRST QUARTER, 1976

Stumpage prices paid for pine averaged \$92.40 per thousand board feet. This represents a price increase of about 9.4 percent over the previous quarter and is 20.0 percent higher than the average for the same period last year. Hardwood prices were higher for most species but the increases were smaller on the average than pine.

Prices reported for poles were generally unchanged except for slightly higher averages on all classes above sixties.

Pulpwood stumpage averaged \$6.50 and \$2.75 per cord for pine and hardwood respectively.

Wood Chips averaged \$10.55 per ton for pine and \$9.25 for hardwood F.O.B. sawmill.

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During the January-March quarter, the following U.S.D.A. Forest Service Sales for Kisatchie National Forest were reported:

SAWLOGS			PULPWOOD	
Specie	MBF 1/	Ave. Price Dollars/MBF	Cords	Ave. Price Dollars/Cord
Syp	21,806	105.87	23,939	6.48
Mx. Hdwd.	480	29.86	2,467	2.91

1/ Scribner-Decimal "C" Rule.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID TO LOUISIANA TIMBER PRODUCERS BY TYPES OF INDUSTRIES, JAN.-MAR., 1976  
WITH COMPARISONS

Forest Service Sales are excluded from following reported prices

							<u>STATE AVERAGE</u>		
		Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Jan.-Mar. 1976	Previous Quarter	Same Period Year Ago
(A)	<u>Sawlogs (Stumpage)</u>	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)	(Dollars)
	Pine M.Bd.Ft.	93.90	101.00	89.50	88.25	1/	92.40	84.40	76.80
	Cypress "	36.65	50.00	38.35	43.75	40.85	41.75	37.75	39.75
	Oaks "	33.35	43.00	30.45	42.40	40.00	34.75	34.95	32.90
	Gums "	33.35	39.00	32.50	40.40	36.65	36.15	36.40	34.45
	Willow "	33.75	37.50	30.00	45.00	35.00	36.00	34.75	34.20
	Ash "	36.25	60.00	38.35	1/	49.15	47.65	44.50	45.35
	Cottonwood "	36.25	41.25	1/	45.00	38.35	39.20	38.00	37.40
	Mixed Hardwoods"	34.00	38.00	33.00	43.00	36.65	36.30	35.20	33.45
(B)	<u>Sawlogs (Delivered)</u>								
	Pine M.Bd.Ft.	130.05	135.00	128.90	123.15	113.35	128.00	122.20	110.85
	Cypress "	78.35	99.00	86.65	91.25	91.65	90.20	84.40	77.40
	Oaks "	76.80	96.00	80.00	90.00	91.65	85.90	79.35	71.20
	Gums "	77.50	91.00	80.70	89.00	88.35	84.60	82.35	75.45
	Willow "	73.75	88.00	76.65	90.00	85.85	83.35	79.30	74.20
	Ash "	79.00	107.00	81.65	1/	98.35	93.80	89.10	85.40
	Cottonwood "	79.00	94.00	1/	91.65	90.00	87.40	83.40	77.45
	Mixed Hardwoods"	79.15	94.00	78.25	90.00	87.50	84.50	81.15	74.85
<u>Poles, Barky (FOB Plant or Concentration Point) - Each -</u>									
	30-Ft. Class 5	9.05	1/	8.75	1/	1/	8.85	8.75	9.00
	" 6	7.65	1/	7.45	1/	1/	7.50	7.30	7.55
	" 7	6.00	1/	5.95	1/	1/	5.95	5.70	5.70
	35-Ft. Class 4	14.40	1/	14.15	1/	1/	14.30	13.95	14.45
	" 5	12.85	1/	12.10	1/	1/	12.50	12.15	12.40
	" 6	9.75	1/	9.75	1/	1/	9.75	9.65	10.00
	" 7	7.20	1/	8.05	1/	1/	7.55	7.40	8.15
	40-Ft. Class 2	24.75	1/	25.20	1/	1/	24.95	25.65	28.30
	" 3	21.45	1/	21.70	1/	1/	21.60	21.75	23.85
	" 4	18.15	1/	17.85	1/	1/	18.25	18.00	19.25
	" 5	15.95	1/	15.40	1/	1/	15.90	15.65	16.60
	" 6	12.20	1/	12.30	1/	1/	12.20	11.95	13.35
	45-Ft. Class 2	30.95	1/	30.40	1/	1/	30.70	31.80	34.20
	" 3	25.65	1/	26.15	1/	1/	25.85	26.00	28.30
	" 4	21.45	1/	22.00	1/	1/	21.90	21.90	23.60
	" 5	19.10	1/	19.15	1/	1/	19.35	19.25	20.70
	50-Ft. Class 2	35.50	1/	35.20	1/	1/	35.35	36.70	39.45
	" 3	30.65	1/	30.25	1/	1/	30.65	31.30	33.65
	" 4	25.70	1/	26.55	1/	1/	26.05	26.20	29.05
	55-Ft. Class 2	42.40	1/	42.05	1/	1/	42.25	43.00	46.85
	" 3	35.85	1/	35.75	1/	1/	36.30	36.75	39.75
	" 4	34.80	1/	31.05	1/	1/	32.95	33.90	35.75
	60-Ft. Class 2	50.05	1/	50.05	1/	1/	50.05	49.90	55.00
	" 3	43.55	1/	43.05	1/	1/	44.40	43.90	47.75
	65-Ft. Class 2	58.30	1/	57.75	1/	1/	58.05	57.20	62.55
	" 3	50.45	1/	50.90	1/	1/	50.65	48.50	54.85
	70-Ft. Class 2	67.50	1/	67.50	1/	1/	67.50	65.40	71.50
	" 3	59.30	1/	1/	1/	1/	62.45	59.75	68.05
	75-Ft. Class 2	79.70	1/	1/	1/	1/	83.05	79.55	88.30
	" 3	69.95	1/	1/	1/	1/	73.15	69.97	79.15
	80-Ft. Class 2	94.30	1/	1/	1/	1/	97.60	92.70	102.65
	" 3	80.35	1/	1/	1/	1/	84.10	79.40	88.95

STATE AVERAGE

	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 4	Area 5	Jan.-Mar. 1976	Previous Quarter	Same Period Year Ago
<u>Pulpwood, Per Cord:</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>	<u>(Dollars)</u>
Pine, Stumpage	7.00	5.80	6.50	4.70	<u>1/</u>	6.50	6.40	6.25
Pine, FOB Car	30.85	<u>1/</u>	30.60	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	30.40	29.90	28.70
Hardwood, Mixed Stumpage	2.90	<u>1/</u>	2.45	2.90	2.65	2.70	2.75	2.75
Hardwood, Mixed FOB Car	27.40	<u>1/</u>	24.85	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	26.00	27.40	25.20

1/ Insufficient number of quotes to report on area basis but included in Statewide average.

Note: The Doyle log scale is basis for board feet measurement.

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### PLAN NOW FOR HIGHER TIMBER PRICES

Prices paid to landowners for timber vary from time to time depending on the overall economy and market conditions. However, the long term trend is definitely upward, according to Dr. Alden Main, forester with the LSU Cooperative Extension Service. The 1973 U.S. Forest Service Louisiana Survey points out that our forest area has decreased by 1-1/2 million acres since 1964. However, our forests are still producing more timber than is being harvested. Growth per acre has increased from 45 cubic feet in 1963 to 64 cubic feet in 1973. In the last 10 years, the capacity of Louisiana's pulpmills has doubled, and the pine plywood industry was begun and has flourished.

Forest economists predict that the demand for timber will exceed supply by the year 2020 if present rates of use continue and present tree growth rates are not increased. Increased demands will insure higher prices for future timber crops.

Forestland owners should be preparing for better prices now by managing their property. Many owners feel that trees will grow with or without their efforts and, therefore, do not see the need for management. But untended woodlands, like untended gardens, may produce only weeds and inferior products. The first step for a landowner is to contact a "forestry professional." We now have 725 in Louisiana. There are several public agencies that advise landowners for free. The Extension Service, Louisiana Forestry Commission and the Soil Conservation service will help small forest landowners. Industry foresters will also provide assistance in many cases. Larger property owners usually find that a consultant forester will more than pay the fee he receives for his help.

The above information provided thru the courtesy of the L.S.U. Extension Forestry Service.